

**Patents are granted to ensure people have access to latest technology or drug:
Controller General of Patents**

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The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks PH Kurian has said that the key task of granting a patent is to allow people to have access to the latest technology or drug. He also announced the development of a software to publish the entire details of the Indian patented products, which will give a broad overview on whether it is functional or not.

At the Intellectual Property Symposium held at the John F Welch Technology Centre, a GE-India Technology Centre, Kurian stated that the objective of patent office is to provide the public the complete information about the valid patents granted in India. "We are here not to pressurize the patentee but to encourage them in coming out with innovative findings. Patent law is not to incentivise the industry but to make available a novel discovery or invention that would help end-user to improve the quality of life", said Kurian.

The data 'on working of patents' is being compiled and will soon be made available online for the public to know the validity of the patent. Of the 33,000 applicants so far, 24,500 have furnished the information on working of patents and 30 percent are yet to make submissions, stated Kurian.

The one-day event was held by GE Technology Centre to observe the 10 years of IP creation at the John F Welch Technology Centre.

According to the organizers, innovation and patent scenario in India is rapidly evolving as the country looks to technologies both home grown and global to tackle many challenges on healthcare among others.

A robust intellectual properly regime is an important driver for building on an innovative economy. IP rights provide inventors and innovators with the incentive to develop new technologies. Therefore it is important that Indian and multinational companies work with the various stakeholders including the government to evaluate the impact of existing frameworks and explore alternative ones which will enable India to become an innovation hub.

The symposium brought together academia, legal experts, industry and government to comprehend the Indian Intellectual Property Rights Regime, emerging technologies, venture capital funding, government policies and global issues such as security and climate change.